

Application No. 10/608,169
Response to Office Action following Decision on Appeal

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AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

JUN 30 2008

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently amended) A photonic circuit comprising:
a photonic resonator;
means for heating said photonic resonator;
means for measuring a temperature of said photonic resonator;
means for coupling said temperature measuring means to said heating means; and
logic means associating one or more frequencies of light to one or more
temperatures of said photonic resonator, said logic means comprising a memory and
processor;

wherein said temperature measuring means monitors said temperature of said
photonic resonator and transmits signals to said heating means based on said temperature
and said logic means; and further

wherein said heating means is enabled or disabled so that said photonic resonator
is maintained at a precise temperature and selectively filters a frequency of light
corresponding to said temperature;

thereby said photonic circuit functions as a variable tunable switch capable of
selecting a particular frequency of light in a deliberate stepped manner.

2. (Currently amended) The photonic circuit according to claim 1, wherein said
photonic resonator, said heating means, said temperature measuring means, and said
coupling means are etched onto an integrated circuit chip.
3. (Currently amended) The photonic circuit according to claim 1, wherein said
temperature of said photonic resonator is varied over a range of temperatures, thereby
causing said photonic resonator to selectively add and drop frequencies corresponding to
said temperatures, and wherein said photonic circuit further comprises means to process
said selected frequencies.

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4. (Original) The photonic circuit according to claim 1, wherein said circuit is used as an accurate control for photonic switching.
5. (Original) The photonic circuit according to claim 1, wherein said temperature measuring means comprise an aluminum wire.
6. (Original) The photonic circuit according to claim 1, wherein said coupling means comprise a processor.
7. (Currently amended) A process to variably tune a frequency selected by a photonic resonator comprising the steps of:
 - identifying a frequency stored in a logic device to be selected by said photonic resonator, said logic device comprising a processor and memory;
 - identifying a temperature stored in said logic device, said temperature associated with said frequency stored in said logic device;
 - sensing a temperature of said photonic resonator;
 - transmitting a measure of said temperature to a processor;
 - determining whether said temperature of said photonic resonator equals said temperature identified in said logic device; and
 - adjusting said temperature of said photonic resonator to equal said temperature identified in said logic device
 - thereby selecting the color of light for transmission through said photonic resonator.
8. (Original) The process to variably tune a frequency selected by a photonic resonator according to claim 7, wherein said temperature is sensed by a change in resistance of a metal wire.
9. (Original) The process to variably tune a frequency selected by a photonic resonator according to claim 8, wherein said metal wire comprises aluminum.

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10. (Original) The process to variably tune a frequency selected by a photonic resonator according to claim 9, further comprising the steps of:

measuring a resistance of said wire at room temperature;
increasing resonator temperature by forcing a current through the said wire;
determining the temperature of said photonic resonator during operation by measuring the resistance of the wire at this temperature.

11. (Original) The process to variably tune a frequency selected by a photonic resonator according to claim 8, further comprising the steps of:

transmitting a current through said wire;
connecting a volt meter to said wire;
measuring a voltage across said wire; and
calculating the resistance of said wire.

12. (Original) The process to variably tune a frequency selected by a photonic circuit according to claim 11, wherein said volt meter is connected to said wire via a Kelvin connection.

13. (Original) The process to variably tune a frequency selected by a photonic resonator according to claim 7, wherein said measure of temperature is used as a key into a lookup table, said lookup table comprising different frequencies selected by said resonator at different temperatures.

14. – 23. (Canceled)